



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 436TH AIRLIFT WING (AMC)

MEMORANDUM FOR 436 CES/CEV

FROM: 436 MSG/CC

SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) - Construct an Addition to Facility 206.

1. Dover AFB is proposing to construct an addition to facility 206. The facility addition consists of approximately 3,000 square feet.
2. An environmental assessment, which is attached, was drafted and demonstrates that there are no significant environmental impacts from the proposed action. An environmental assessment was available for public review and comment from 13 June through 26 June 2004. No comments were received.
3. This document was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations of 1978, and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7061, *The Environmental Impact Analysis Process*. AFI 32-7061 addresses implementation of the NEPA and directs Air Force officials to consider the environmental consequences of any proposal as part of the decision-making process. This instruction has been recently amended and appears, as amended, in 32 CFR Part 989. It was determined that neither an environmental impact statement nor a formal environmental assessment is necessary. No further environmental documentation is necessary.
4. I have evaluated the attached environmental assessment and find no significant impacts on the quality of the human or natural environment from the proposed action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. King", is positioned above the printed name and title.

ROBERT J. KING, Colonel, USAF
Commander, 436th Mission Support Group

Attachments:

1. AF Form 813
2. Environmental Assessment

Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CONSTRUCT AN ADDITION TO FACILITY 206

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Dover Air Force Base (DAFB) is located in Kent County, Delaware. The base is situated 3.5 miles southeast of the center of Dover, Delaware, the state capital. The base covers approximately 3,902 acres of land area including annexes, easements, and leased property.

Dover AFB has two active airfields. The north-south airfield at Dover AFB divides the main Base into two primary sections. Open space, recreational areas, and limited amounts of industrial uses are located east of the airfield. The land uses west of the airfield and east of U.S. Route 113 are industrial, airfield operations, administrative, community, medical, and some unaccompanied personnel housing. Eagle Heights Military Family House (MFH), temporary lodging quarters, a golf course, and additional unaccompanied personnel housing are located west of U.S. Route 113 and east of St. Jones River. The surrounding areas consist primarily of cropland and wetlands, with the Saint Jones River running adjacent to the southwestern corner of the base.

1.2 PROJECT PURPOSE and NEED

The proposed project identified in the AF Form 813 would construct an additional 3,000 square feet to facility 206. The purpose of the addition will be to provide additional space in order to conduct aircrew training. AMC is upgrading the C-5 aircraft with an Avionics Modernization Program. Dover AFB is scheduled to receive the command's first 16 modified aircraft. The extensive AMP training will require a computer lab and an additional classroom for aircrew training. The proposed addition is also needed for the site manager, storage space and restrooms. This addition will alleviate the space shortfalls and will keep aircrew qualifications current.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The National Environmental Policy Act, commonly known as NEPA, is a Federal statute requiring the identification and analysis of potential environmental impacts of proposed Federal actions before those actions are taken. NEPA established the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) that is charged with the development of implementing regulations and ensuring agency compliance with NEPA. CEQ regulations mandate that all Federal agencies use a systematic interdisciplinary approach to environmental planning and the evaluation of actions that may affect the environment.

This process evaluates potential environmental consequences associated with a proposed action and considers alternative courses of action. The intent of NEPA is to protect, restore, or enhance the environment through well-informed Federal decisions.

The process for implementing NEPA is codified in Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508, *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act*. CEQ regulations specify the following must be accomplished when preparing an environmental assessment (EA):

- Briefly provide evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) or a finding of no significant impact (FONSI)
- Aid in an agency's compliance with NEPA when an EIS is unnecessary
- Facilitate preparation of an EIS when one is necessary

Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 32-70, *Environmental Quality*, states that the U.S. Air Force (USAF) will comply with applicable Federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, including NEPA. The USAF's implementing regulation for NEPA is *The Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP)*, 32 CFR Part 989, as amended.

2.2 INTEGRATION OF OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

To comply with NEPA, the planning and decision-making process for actions proposed by Federal agencies involves a study of other relevant environmental statutes and regulations. The NEPA process, however, does not replace procedural or substantive requirements of other environmental statutes and regulations. It addresses them collectively in the form of an EA or EIS, which enables the decision-maker to have a comprehensive view of major environmental issues and requirements associated with the Proposed Action. According to CEQ regulations, the requirements of NEPA must be integrated "with other planning and environmental review procedures required by law or by agency so that all such procedures run concurrently rather than consecutively."

The EA examines potential effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives on seven resource areas including air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geological resources, hazardous materials and waste, safety, and water resources. Four resource areas are omitted from analysis include infrastructure, noise, land use, and socioeconomics and environmental justice. The basis for the omissions is described in section 4.0. The following paragraphs present examples of relevant laws, regulations, and other requirements that are often considered as part of the analysis.

2.2.1 Air Quality

The Clean Air Act (CAA) establishes Federal policy to protect and enhance the quality of the nation's air resources to protect human health and the

environment. The CAA requires that adequate steps be implemented to control the release of air pollutants and prevent significant deterioration in air quality. The 1990 amendments to the CAA require Federal agencies to determine the conformity of proposed actions with respect to State Implementation Plans (SIPs) for attainment of air quality goals.

2.2.2 Biological Resources

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires Federal agencies that fund, authorize, or implement actions to avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of federally listed threatened or endangered species, or destroying or adversely affecting their critical habitat. Federal agencies must evaluate the effects of their actions through a set of defined procedures, which can include preparation of a Biological Assessment and formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands, requires that Federal agencies provide leadership and take actions to minimize or avoid the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands.

The CWA, under Section 404, contains provisions for protection of wetlands and establishes a permitting process for activities having potential effects in wetland areas. Wetlands, riverine, and open water systems are considered waters of the United States and, as such, fall under the regulatory jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

2.2.3 Cultural Resources

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) provides the principal authority used to protect historic properties, establishes the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and defines, in Section 106, the requirements for Federal agencies to consider the effect of an action on properties on or eligible for the NRHP.

Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties (36 CFR 800 [1986]) provides an explicit set of procedures for Federal agencies to meet their obligations under the NHPA, including inventorying of resources and consultation with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

The Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 ensures that Federal agencies protect and preserve archeological resources on Federal or Native American lands and establishes a permitting system to allow legitimate scientific study of such resources.

EO 13007, Indian Sacred Sites, requires that, to the extent practicable, Federal agencies accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by

Indian religious practitioners and avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites.

EO 13084, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, requires that each Federal agency shall have an effective process to permit elected officials and other representatives of Indian tribal governments to provide meaningful and timely input in the development of regulatory policies or matters that uniquely affect their communities.

2.2.4 Safety

Air Force Instruction (AFI) 91-301, *Air Force Occupational and Environmental Safety, Fire Protection, and Health (AFOSH) Program*, implements AFPD 91-3, *Occupational Safety and Health*, by outlining the AFOSH Program. The purpose of the AFOSH Program is to minimize loss of USAF resources and to protect USAF personnel from occupational deaths, injuries, or illnesses by managing risks. In conjunction with the USAF Mishap Prevention Program (AFI 91-202), these standards ensure all USAF workplaces meet Federal safety and health requirements. This instruction applies to all USAF activities.

2.2.5 Water Resources

The Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977 (33 United States Code [USC] 1344) and the Water Quality Act of 1987 (33 USC 1251, et seq., as amended) establish Federal policy to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters, and where attainable, to achieve a level of water quality that provides for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and recreation in and on the water.

Executive Order (EO) 11988, *Floodplain Management*, requires Federal agencies to take action to reduce the risk of flood damage; minimize the impacts of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Federal agencies are directed to consider the proximity of their actions to or within floodplains. Where information is unavailable, agencies are encouraged to delineate the extent of floodplains at their site.

Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) establishes goals for and a mechanism for states to control use and development of their coastal zones. CZMA applies to actions on federal lands only when state's coastal zone is affected. CZMA requires that federal agencies be consistent with enforceable policies of state coastal zone management programs when conducting or supporting activities within or outside the coastal zone that affect land use, water use, or natural resources of the coastal zone.

2.2.6 Infrastructure

Infrastructure consists of the systems and physical structures that enable a population in a given area to self sustain. Consideration of infrastructure is applicable to a proposed action or alternative where there may be an issue with respect to local capacities (e.g., utilities, transportation networks, energy) to provide the required support.

2.2.7 Noise

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 150, *Airport Noise Compatibility Planning*, provides guidance to measure noise at airports and surrounding areas and determine exposure of individuals to noise that result from the operations of an airport. FAA Part 150 identifies those land uses which are normally compatible with various levels of exposure to noise by individuals. It also provides technical assistance to airport operators, in conjunction with other local, state, and Federal authorities, to prepare and execute appropriate noise compatibility planning and implementation programs (14 CFR 150).

2.2.8 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice

EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, directs Federal agencies to assess the effects of their actions on minority and low-income populations within their region of influence. Agencies are encouraged to include demographic information related to race and income in their analysis of the environmental and economic effects associated with their actions.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

3.1 PROPOSED ACTION

DAFB will construct an addition to facility 206 by approximately 3,000 square feet. The construction will take place on the South end on the existing facility (figure 1).

3.2 ALTERNATIVE ACTION

Alternative actions were initially considered, but were eliminated due to impracticality. Building a new facility is not practical or feasible due to the extraordinary costs. A new facility would also require an extensive environmental clean-up of the old facility. In addition there is insufficient land on Dover AFB to relocate the facility. Therefore, this EA focuses on the proposed action.

3.3 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The no-action alternative would maintain the status quo. This alternative is not recommended due to the major flight deck modification to the C-5 aircraft. This conversion will require all pilots and flight engineers to undergo extensive training on

the AMP. Classroom space must support existing training, and the AMP represents an additional requirement.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Section 4.0 describes the environmental and socioeconomic resources and conditions most likely to be affected by the proposed action.

In compliance with NEPA, CEQ guideline, and 32 CFR Part 989, as amended, the description of the affected environment focuses on those resources and conditions potentially subject to impacts. Some environmental resources and conditions that are often analyzed in an EA have been omitted from this analysis. The following details the basis for such exclusions:

- **Infrastructure.** The proposed action or the alternative action would not involve any activities that would contribute to major changes with respect to local capacities (e.g., utilities, transportation networks, energy) to provide the required support. The existing utilities would be utilized. The traffic patterns would not change in MFH. Accordingly, the detailed examination of the infrastructure has been omitted.
- **Noise.** Implementation of the proposed action or the alternative action would not involve permanent alterations to aircraft inventories, operations, or missions. No new permanent ground-based heavy equipment operations would be included in the proposed action or the alternative action. No activity included in the proposed action or the alternative action would result in a situation where residences would be impacted by an increase in present ambient noise levels. Furthermore, noise produced by construction activities associated with the proposed action or the alternative action would be temporary and would not significantly affect sensitive receptors. Accordingly, the detailed examination of noise has been omitted.
- **Land Use.** All activities associated with the proposed action or the alternative action would be consistent with present and foreseeable land use patterns at Dover AFB. Implementation of the proposed action or the alternative action would not alter the existing land use at Dover AFB. The surrounding land is not considered prime farmland. Accordingly, the detailed examination of land use has been omitted.
- **Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice.** The proposed action or the alternative action would not involve any activities that would contribute to changes in socioeconomic resources. There would be no change in the number of personnel assigned to DAFB, therefore there would be no changes in area population or associated changes in demand for housing and services. Accordingly, the detailed examination of socioeconomics has been omitted.

Environmental Justice addresses the potential for a proposed federal action to cause disproportionate and adverse health effects on minority or low-income populations.

Adverse health effects are not expected, therefore minority and low-income population data is not analyzed in this assessment. There would be no environmental justice concerns associated with the proposed action or the alternative action. Accordingly, the detailed examination of environmental justice has been omitted.

4.1 AIR QUALITY

Proposed Action

Dover AFB is an area of severe non-attainment for ozone. The priority air pollutants of concern are nitrogen oxides (NOx) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). No long-term air quality impacts are expected from the proposed action. The proposed action would generate air pollutant emissions as a result of grading, filling, compacting, and paving operations, but these emissions would be temporary and would not be expected to generate any off-site impacts. Central heating, ventilation, and air conditioning will be fueled by natural gas, thus the air emissions would not impact threshold air requirements. The proposed action would generate VOC emissions as a result of using solvents, paints, thinners, and coatings, but these emissions would be temporary, *de minimis*, and would not be expected to generate any off-site impacts. Therefore, a Clean Air Act amendment section 176(c) conformity determination is not required.

No-Action Alternative

Air quality would not be impacted by the no-action alternative.

4.2 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Proposed Action

After reviewing the 1998 Wetland Survey, it was determined that the proposed project will not impact wetlands or the 100-year floodplain. The proposed action will be on corner of Atlantic Street and Liberty Way (Figure 1).

According to the Biological/Ecological Inventory, dated 1993, there are no known occurrences of federally listed threatened and endangered animal or plant on Dover AFB.

There are also no known plants of state concern near the facility 206 vicinity.

No-Action Alternative

Rare and endangered species would not be impacted by the no-action alternative.

4.3 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Proposed Action

There are no known cultural resources sites near the 206 facility vicinity, according to the Cultural Resources Management Plan prepared in 2000.

No-Action Alternative

Cultural resources would not be impacted by the no-action alternative.

4.4 GEOLOGY

Proposed Action

Slopes in the proposed areas are shallow to flat and the proposed action would not cause or create significant changes to the topography of the Dover AFB area.

No-Action Alternative

Topography would not be impacted by the no-action alternative.

4.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/HAZARDOUS WATER

Proposed Action

Hazardous materials usage will not be increased.

No-Action Alternative

Hazardous materials would not be impacted by the no-action alternative.

4.6 OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

Proposed Action

The proposed action will increase safety by meeting the aircrew training requirements for AMP. The current training facility has achieved maximum capacity for its optimum operation.

No-Action Alternative

Occupational safety and health would not be impacted by the no-action alternative.

4.7 WATER RESOURCES

Proposed Action

The projected area's water sources are currently free of contamination. The proposed project will also maintain the impervious surface soil and not will require a modification to the existing storm management system. A sediment and erosion control plan will be developed and implemented during construction.

No-Action Alternative

No water resources will be impacted by the no-action alternative.

5.0 CONCLUSION

Three alternatives were evaluated with regards to this project. Under the No Action Alternative, the new flight deck modification of the C-5 aircraft will make the C-5 aircrew status ill-equipped to perform their mission due to lack of classroom space to support the AMP requirement.

The second option is to build a new training facility. A new facility is cost prohibitive. Sparse land availability on Dover AFB also rules out adding another facility.

Option three, which is the proposed action, is to expand on the existing facility, building 206. This alternative is the only feasible alternative to meet the AMP aircrew training demand. Therefore, based on the reasons previously stated and the fact that there are no negative environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, the proposed action is the preferred action.

6.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

Heidgerd, Emily, 2Lt.
436 CES/CEV
Contribution: Author

7.0 LIST OF CONTACTS

Lavender, Gina
436 CES/CECP
Purpose of Contact: Proponent

DiSalvo, Lee
436 CES/CEV
Purpose of Contact: Water Information

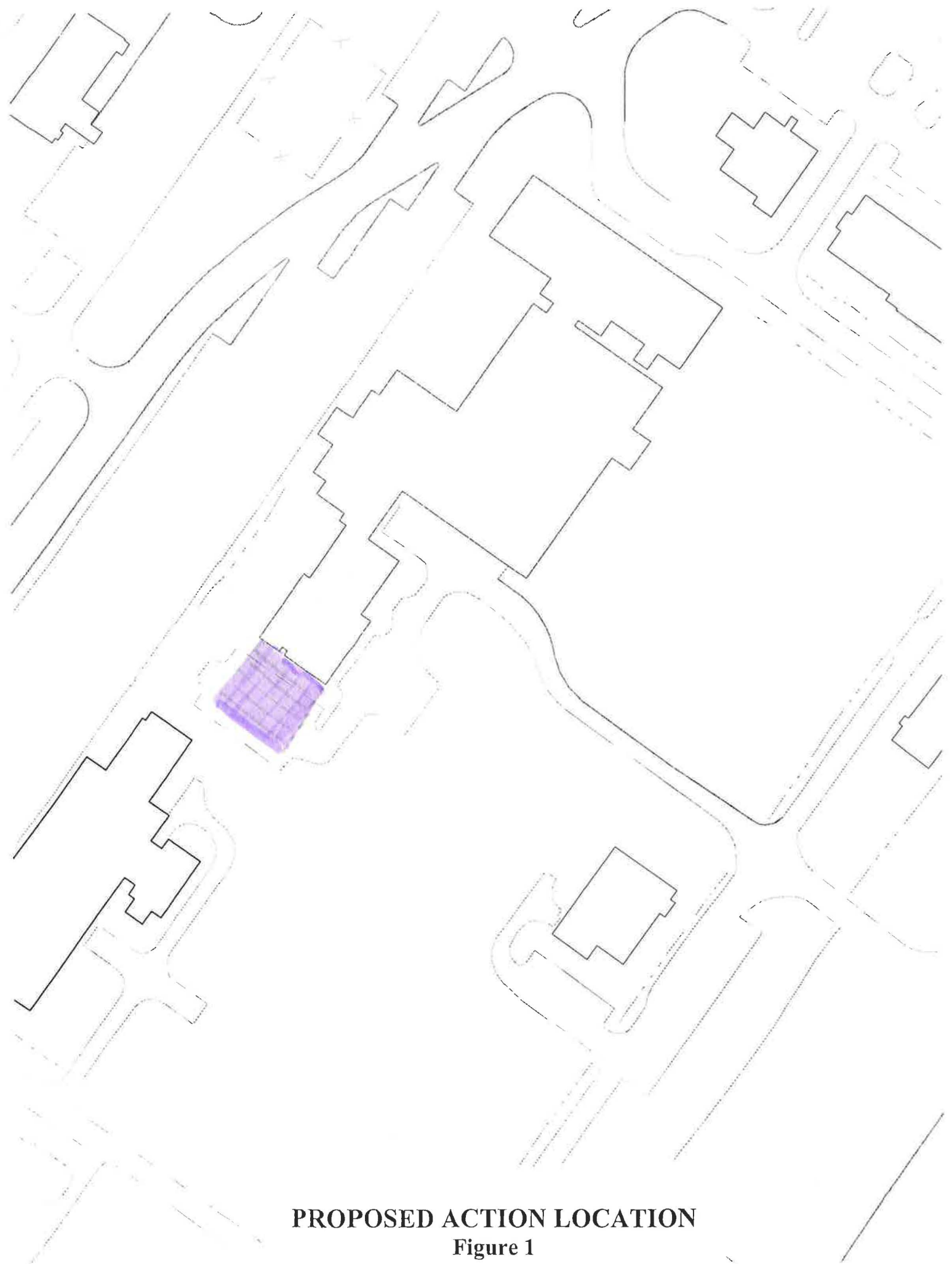
Deramo, Jo Anne
436 CES/CEV
Purpose of Contact: ERP Information

8.0 REFERENCES

“Dover Air Force Base, Cultural Resources Management Plan”, October 2000
“Biological and Ecological Inventory of Dover Air Force Base, Delaware”,
November 1993

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AFI - Air Force Instruction
AFOSH - Air Force Occupational and Environmental Safety, Fire Protection, and Health
AFPD - Air Force Policy Directive
AMP - Avionics Modernization Program
CAA - Clean Air Act
CEQ - Council on Environmental Quality
CFR - Code of Federal Regulations
CWA - Clean Water Act
CZMA - Coastal Zone Management Act
DAFB – Dover Air Force Base
EA - Environmental Assessment
EIAP - Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EIS - Environmental Impact Statement
EO - Executive Order
ESA - Endangered Species Act
ETL – Electronic Technical Letter
FAA - Federal Aviation Administration
FONSI - Finding of No Significant Impact
MFH - Military Family Housing
NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA - National Historic Preservation Act
NOx - Nitrogen Oxide(s)
NRHP - National Register of Historic Places
SHPO - State Historic Preservation Office
SIP - State Implementation Plan
SR - State Route
USC - United States Code
USACE - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USAF - U.S. Air Force
VOC - Volatile Organic Compound



PROPOSED ACTION LOCATION

Figure 1



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 436TH AIRLIFT WING (AMC)

29 June 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR 436 MSG/CC

FROM: 436 AW/JA

SUBJECT: FONSI for Construction of an Addition to Facility 206

1. I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the addition to facility 206. I find both documents to be in compliance with 40 CFR 1501.3 and 1508.9, as implemented by AFI 32-7061, paragraph 3.3. Additionally, the EA was made available for public review and comment and no comments were received.

2. **RECOMMENDATION:** Sign the FONSI.


MARC A. JONES, Maj, USAF
Deputy Staff Judge Advocate

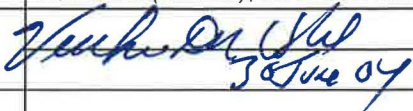

1st Ind, 436 AW/JA

MEMORANDUM FOR 436 MSG/CC

Concur/~~Non-concur~~


DONNA MARIE VERCHIO, Lt Col, USAF
Staff Judge Advocate

STAFF SUMMARY SHEET

	TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE		TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE
1	AW/JA	Coord	 3 June 04	6			
2	MSG/CC	Sign		7			
3	CES/CEV	Action		8			
4				9			
5				10			

SURNAME OF ACTION OFFICER AND GRADE

Mikula, GS-13

SYMBOL

CEV

PHONE

6849

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SUSPENSE DATE

SUBJECT

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Construction of An Addition to Facility 206.

DATE

20040628

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE. To request MSG/CC to sign the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Construction of An Addition to Facility 206 (tab 1).
2. A Request for an Environmental Impact Analysis, AF Form 813, is enclosed (tab 2).
3. An environmental assessment (EA) for the Construction of An Addition to Facility 206 (tab 3). The EA indicates there are no significant environmental impacts from the proposed action.
4. RECOMMENDATION: MSG/CC sign the enclosed FONSI.

M.A. PERZA

Deputy Base Civil Engineer

3 Tabs

1. FONSI, for the Addition to Facility 206
2. AF Form 813
3. Environmental Assessment and Supporting Documentation

Delaware Maryland State News



State of Delaware:

:ss.

County of Kent :

PUBLIC NOTICE DOVER AIR FORCE BASE

Dover Air Force Base (DAFB) is providing a public comment period regarding an environmental assessment associated with:

1. Repair and Construction of two additions to the Entomology Shop.
2. Addition to Facility 206

A copy of the environmental assessment is available for review at the Dover Public Library, 45 State Street, Dover, DE 19901. Comments may be submitted in writing no later than June 26, 2004 to Mr. Charles Mikula, 436 CES/CEV, 600 Chevron Avenue, Dover AFB, DE 19902-5600. All comments received prior to June 26, 2004 will be considered in the final decision.
480741 DSN 6/13.16/04

Before me, a Notary Public, for the County and State aforesaid, personally appeared Tamra Brittingham, known to me to be such, who being sworn according to law deposes and says that she is Publisher of the Delaware State News, a daily newspaper published at Dover, County of Kent and State of Delaware, and that the notice, a copy of which is hereto attached, was published in the Delaware State News in its issue of

June 13 & 16, 2004

Tamra Brittingham

Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

24th

day of

June

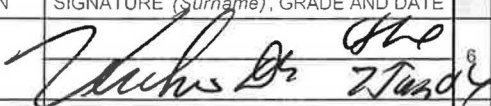
A.D.

2004

Janot E. Lelly

Notary Public

STAFF SUMMARY SHEET

	TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE		TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE
1	AW/JA	Coord	 22 Jun 04	6			
2	CES/CEV	Action		7			
3				8			
4				9			
5				10			

SURNAME OF ACTION OFFICER AND GRADE

Mikula, GS-13

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SUSPENSE DATE

SUBJECT

Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Construct an Addition to Facility 206.

DATE

20040602

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE. To request 436 AW/JA concurrence with the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Construct an Addition to Facility 206.

2. A Request for an Environmental Impact Analysis, AF Form 813, is enclosed (tab 1).

3. An EA with a FONSI is enclosed (tab 2 and tab 3). The EA indicates there are no significant environmental impacts from the proposed action.

4. RECOMMENDATION: 436 AW/JA concur with the EA and FONSI.

M.A.PERZA

Deputy Base Civil Engineer

3 Tabs

1. AF Form 813

2. EA

3. FONSI



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 436TH AIRLIFT WING (AMC)

4 June 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR 436 MSG/CC

FROM: 436 AW/JA

SUBJECT: FONSI for Construction of an Addition to Facility 206

1. I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the addition to facility 206. I find both documents to be in compliance with 40 CFR 1501.3 and 1508.9, as implemented by AFI 32-7061, paragraph 3.3.
2. **RECOMMENDATION:** Sign the FONSI after publication of the EA and a reasonable amount of time for public comment on the EA.


MARC A. JONES, Maj, USAF
Deputy Staff Judge Advocate

1st Ind, 436 AW/JA

MEMORANDUM FOR 436 MSG/CC

Concur/~~Non-concur~~


DONNA MARIE VERCHIO, Lt Col, USAF
Staff Judge Advocate